



STATE OF NEVADA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
901 South Stewart Street, #5004
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Phone (775) 684-2760 - Fax (775) 684-2761

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Thursday, August 17, 2006 at 9:00 AM
Senator Bryan Building
901 S. Stewart St., 5th Floor, Room 5004
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 684-2760

The State Conservation Commission considered and acted on the following items on August 17, 2006 at 9:00 AM:

Board Members Present: James Settelmeyer-Carson Valley CD, Commission Chairman; Keith Whipple-Lincoln County CD, Commission Vice-Chairman; Judy Currier-CD of Southern Nevada; Howard Glancy-Dayton Valley CD; Joe Sicking-Paradise/Sonoma CD; Vance Vesco-Big Meadow CD; Rangesan Narayanan-Associate Dean UNR Department of Agriculture and Don Henderson-Director NV Dept. of Agriculture

Members Absent: Sterling Wines-White Pine CD

Others Present: Pam Wilcox, Executive Secretary-NV Division of Conservation Districts; Kelly McGowan-NV Div of Conservation Districts; Sandi Gotta-NV Div of Conservation Districts; Chris Freeman, President-Nevada Association of Conservation Districts; Bill Dollarhide for State Conservationist Richard Vigil-Natural Resources Conservation Service

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairman James Settelmeyer called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. Introductions were made of those present.

II. REVIEW, AMMENDMENT AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *ACTION*

A. *June 27, 2006 meeting minutes.* – Judy Currier had noticed that there were two item V's listed in the minutes and asked for clarification from staff. Staff reported that it was an oversight and that they would correct the mistake. Keith motioned to approve the minutes with the understanding that the typo would be corrected. Joe seconded the motion and the motion passed.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Three-minute time limit per person, limited to items not on the agenda.

A. There was no public comment.

IV. FINAL APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT BUDGETS – *ACTION*

A. At the June 27, 2006 Commission meeting, the Commission requested staff to obtain clarification on Big Meadow, Carson Valley, Lahontan, Lander County, Northeast Elko, Southern Nye County and Vya Conservation Districts' budgets.

Big Meadow – Staff reported that they had received clarification on the reported income amounts and that the budget was balanced.

Carson Valley – Staff reported that the District had corrected the date typo.

Lahontan – Staff reported that they had received another budget that did not include in-kind match as an expenditure and that the date typo had been corrected.

Lander County – Staff reported that they had received another budget that did not include a carry over funds item and that those funds had been dedicated for specific uses in their budget.

Northeast Elko – Upon further review of the budget, the commission did not need clarification from them concerning dues payments.

Southern Nye County – Staff received clarification that the donations of \$1,950.00 had been put into the wrong budget category and that it was actually a grant that they had received for tamarisk treatment. The source of the \$18,000.00 grant was found to be from the Bureau of Land Management for invasive weed treatment.

Vya – Staff received clarification that the \$6,066.00 reported as income is a cash match that the landowners donate towards the district's range enhancement project.

Joe made a motion to accept all clarifications to the districts' budgets that were in question. Keith seconded the motion. The motion passed.

V. REVIEW OF ALL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS' DRAFT FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FY 2006 – *ACTION*

A. All 28 Districts filed their draft financial reports prior to the Commission meeting. Staff reviewed all reports and recommended that while 5 districts' reports contained some items that need clarification, that none of the clarification issues should impair their eligibility to receive full funding in FY 2007 of \$5,000.00. Staff will contact the Esmeralda, Northeast Elko and the White Pine Conservation Districts to request clarification on their Draft Financial Reports.

Esmeralda – Information pertaining to payment to DRI for weather station maintenance.

Northeast Elko – Clarification of \$10,900 in travel expenses. Possibly placed in wrong category and should have been itemized as noxious weed control activities.

White Pine – Request the district to report any in-kind match that may have been generated in FY 2006. The district was \$18.04 short of \$10,000.00 in expenditures for FY 2006.

Keith moved to approve all 28 Conservation Districts' Draft Financial Reports with resolution to the questions pertaining to Esmeralda, Northeast Elko and White Pine Conservation Districts. Howard seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING: DETERMINATION OF DISTRICT STANDING – *ACTION*

- A. The Commission commended the districts for submitting all reports in a timely manner and are pleased knowing that all of them are eligible for full funding. Kelly reported that in FY 2005, the Districts generated nearly \$19.00 for every \$1.00 of State ‘grants to districts’ funding received. In FY 2006, the Districts generated nearly \$28.00 for every \$1.00 of State ‘grants to districts’ funding received.
- B. Chairman Settlemeyer opened the public hearing for public comments. There was none.
- C. Joe moved to find all Districts in ‘Good Standing’. Vance seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VII. AWARD GRANTS EQUALLY TO DISTRICTS THAT HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE GRANT – *ACTION*

- A. Judy made a motion to equally award grants to all 28 Districts. Keith seconded the motion. Discussion followed and Judy amended her motion to include that clarification is needed on the Esmeralda, Lahontan, Lincoln, Tonopah and White Pine Conservation Districts’ Draft Financial Reports prior to the distribution of any grant funds. Keith seconded the amended motion. The motion passed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Sandi mentioned that the Nevada Agriculture and Water Quality Committee have finalized the committee’s updates to their Memorandum of Understanding. They would like to present the MOU and their Strategic Plan at the upcoming NvACD annual meeting in Elko, October 24-25, 2006.
- B. Chris Freeman will be enlisting the help of district supervisors and employees in making contact with legislators in an effort to gain support for enhanced district funding. Judy Currier agreed to talk to other District supervisors in Clark County that may have established contacts with some of their legislators.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT - Three-minute time limit per person, limited to items not on the agenda.
There was no public comment.

X. COMMISSIONER ITEMS – Commissioner comments and reports

Unless otherwise listed with a topic description, this portion of the agenda is limited to announcements and discussions of items proposed for action at future meetings.

- Dr. Rang would like to see an agenda item at the next Commission meeting so that Kevin Piper could present UNR’s proposed internship program.
- Include the development of a CD or DVD that showcases District projects and programs.

XI. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – *ACTION*

October 23, 2006 at 7:00 pm and reconvening on October 25, 2006 at 4:00 pm.

XII. ADJOURN – *ACTION*

Keith made a motion to adjourn at 10:10am and was seconded by Vance. The motion passed.